1991 to 31.5 in 1994 as per SRS estimates.

These projects are being regularly monitored at the national level to ensure their effectiv implementation.

Out break of Castro-enteritis in Delhi

2555. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Tribune dated the 20th June, 1997 under the caption, "Gastro-enteritis grips Delhi";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(c) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to cope up with the problem being faced in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news report talks about out-break; of water-borne diseases in Delhi. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have informed that the number of reported Gastro-enteritis/cholera cases have shown a declining trend over the last 3 years. Therefore, it cannot be said that Gastro-enteritis has gripped Delhi.

(c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have chalked out a detailed action plan for treatment and prevention of seasonal diseases including gastro enteritis. Setting up of Oral Rehydration Therapy Centres in the Out Patient Department of all dispensaries and hospitals is the main component of the Action Plan for providing treatment to the patients. The Action Plan also include surveillance and monitoring, supply of Oral Rehydration Salts, adequate supply of potable water, distribution of Chlorine tablets, environmental sanitation, food hygience, health education etc.

Noise pollution as health hazard

2556. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether noise pollution is posing health hazards, as revealed by a recent study by the Indian Medical Association;

(b) if so, the measures taken to prevent noise impurities and

(c) the steps proposed to propagate health education in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Government is not aware of any study on noise pollution conducted by the Indian Medical Association. However, studies carried out by the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad have indicated that high levels of noise pollution can cause temporary or permanent hearing impairment and psychobehavioural problems.

(b) and (c) Steps taken by the Government to prevent noise pollution and increase public awareness are enumerated in the statement given below

Statement

Steps taken by the Government

Noise has been notified as a pollutant under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1991. Ambient standards in respect of sound for the different categories of areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified